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SEE OUR WINDOW AND INTERIOR DISPLAY.

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FAVOR EXCHANGE OF LANAI LANDS

Important Meeting Held In Gov. Carter's Office

ISLAND SHOULD BE OWNED BY ONE MAN

LARGE ATTENDANCE AND INTERESTING DISCUSSION OF IMPORTANT LAND QUESTION YESTERDAY

Yesterday afternoon the meeting to discuss the exchange of the Government lands on Lanai took place in the office of Governor Carter. Among those present were: Governor Carter, Francis Gay, W. O. Smith, H. E. Cooper, W. M. Giffard, R. C. A. Peterson, Treasurer Campbell, A. Lewis, Jr., J. P. Dillingham, Eben Low, Samuel Parker, John Kidwell, L. L. McCandless, Senator Knudsen, F. S. Dodge, George Markham and L. G. Kellogg.

The meeting was almost unanimous in favor of the exchange, the only man who took the opposing view with any strength being Senator L. L. McCandless, who stated that he was against the matter from principle and not because he was familiar with the Island of Lanai. Governor Carter opened the meeting with a few remarks. He said:

"While I believe the policy of the administration should be the dividing of land into small holdings and not the concentration of holdings, Lanai is in a different situation. The lease of this land on Lanai, part of which might be used for a silo, is limited to five years. No one has been found who is willing to invest money in this project, in which the plants take nearly the five years to produce the first crop.

Something should be done on this island where the conditions are peculiar both as regards water and character of the lands which are owned by the government.

"Land Commissioner Pratt will give you an idea of the conditions on Lanai as he has found them."

Mr. Pratt said: "There is only one source of water on the island, in Maunalei gulch, and this does not at present extend below the government lands. Another peculiar condition is that the government land is cut up in various ways by the land under private ownership.

"The best of the land owned by the government is in a large crater where shafts were sunk some years ago at a large expense in trying to obtain water.

"The weather Bureau reports show that in nine years the average rainfall per year was 32.51. It seems to be heaviest in December and January. It seems to be smallest in September. The soil is a sandy loam all the way through where the borings were made, and refuses to hold the water, which simply drains through.

"The industry has been stock raising, sheep and cattle. Sugar cane has been tried unsuccessfully and I believe a few times have also been planted.

"This is not a new matter and I have looked it through carefully and have been thought by some to have placed too high a value on it. For this reason I asked J. F. Brown, Capt. Kidwell and Paul Jarrett to visit the land in question and on receiving their reports I made mine to the Governor, that it would be best to exchange the lands. The total figures were as follows: Jarrett, \$48,305.50; Brown, \$87,755; and Kidwell, \$107,059. I therefore advised that the lands be exchanged at the value given by Captain Kidwell."

Governor Carter had a number of letters from different sources which were written after the meeting had been called.

One communication was a petition

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WAITY BLDG. 74 S. KING STREET.

from a number of citizens of Hilo protesting against the exchange of the lands in question.

Mr. Pratt stated that the Government was now receiving \$1700 per year in rental. He stated that the better lands were crown lands and the leases would not expire for ten years.

Mr. Barker stated that if the people on Lanai were paying their taxes he did not think the land should be exchanged. He also criticized the Governor for reading the communications and attempted to interrupt almost every speaker.

Prof. Hoarmer said:

"I can corroborate what Mr. Pratt has said and also can state in regard to forestry that without the extermination of the goats on the island great damage will result and has been done by them for some time past.

"I firmly believe that unless these goats are exterminated the forest on the top of the island will be completely destroyed. I am in favor of the exchange because under one ownership I believe something can be done to save the island."

Mr. Gay, who lives on the island and is regarded as the probable owner if the exchange is made, said:

"There are about 100 natives all told, on the island. They have homes on the beach and live from fishing and I employ them when I need labor. They buy all their food, etc., from Lahaina. Last year I was forced to supply them with water as the little streams from which they were accustomed to get water, had dried up.

"I believe that grazing is the only practical use to which the island may be put. I have tried to grow vegetables at my ranch but have failed on account of the lack of water, having only enough to supply my stock. Last year I lost over 10,000 sheep for lack of water. This year I have not had as many and so have not lost as many."

"Sometimes ago I offered \$100,000 for the island. At that time there were several people who were willing to go into the matter with me. I cannot get this support now.

"I believe it is impossible to do anything under a lease as one does not have any stability and cannot lay plans ahead."

Senator McCandless said: "I am opposed to the exchange on principle. I do not believe that any one man should own 49,000 acres of land. I think that if one man could make a success of the island, individuals, who had the land in lots of 300 or 450 acres, could make still more of a success."

"I believe that the Legislature should appropriate money to make this land populous and that the island should not be depopulated as I think it would be if owned by one man."

W. O. Smith said: "I have frequently had occasion to go to Lanai and while I am very much in favor of homesteading, it seems to me that Lanai cannot be used for any such purpose."

"The island has become more and more barren. I think it would be better to use the land for grazing and I do not believe that this could be done on a small scale. Even on a large scale I do not believe that the island can be made productive."

"It has proved impossible to develop a water supply and I do not believe there would be any use in the Legislature appropriating money for this purpose. I believe that if Mr. McCandless would look over the land he would see that there was no chance of using it for homesteads."

"I should say that \$75,000 would be a high price for the land and am surprised at the estimate made by Mr. Kidwell."

Eben Low said:

"I believe that in case of an exchange there should be some provision made that improvements should be carried out. I believe that we should hold on to the land till the leases have all expired as something might turn up which might be advantageous."

"I think that the lands as they come due should be released till that time at auction with a low upset price and the conditions that some improvements should be made."

Judge H. E. Cooper:

"I went to Lanai week before last and examined the property. Mr. Gay, whom I represent, has spent some \$70,000 on the island and does not feel that he can go ahead unless he has some security. I may say that I have secured an option for the Spreckles and Irwin lands, 29,000 acres at about \$1.25 per acre, a much lower figure than the Government wishes for its land."

"I believe that the land on Lanai should be saved and that the best way that this can be done is by its being in the hands of one man. On account of the lack of rainfall a small stock ranch would never be successful."

"Without the fencing into 5,000 or 10,000 acre paddocks, I do not believe that even the ranch system would be a success. There is no value whatever in the land on the windward side of the island. There is practically no chance for storage reservoirs on account of the porous character of the soil. The lack of water is the entire trouble on Lanai."

Mr. Kidwell said: "I am in favor of dividing up land into small farms wherever it is possible. But I do not think that it is possible in this case."

"In regard to the value which is placed on the land, which Mr. Smith states is too high: I did this on account of the understanding that all the water in Maunalei gulch belonged to the Government and without this water the other land is useless."

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"I think that on the plateau silos would grow and I think that in time apples would grow. But there would be no market for them as they could not be shipped fresh, and to can them a large amount of fresh water would be needed. This cannot be obtained."

"If exchanged as proposed a great deal more money would have to be spent for machinery and other improvements."

Sam Parker said:

"I went with Mr. Irwin to Lanai once, when he and I owned one-third of the land together, with the intention of freezing the other people out of the entire island. We found we could not get the land and gave the project up. I thought then as I do now that unless we could get the entire island we could do nothing with it."

"That was 23 years ago and the conditions were better then than they are now, that is, there was more water. I do not believe that in small lots the land can be worth anything."

Senator Knudsen said:

"I went up there and found a wind-swept, barren spot with no water. I agree with others who have spoken here, without water you can have no homesteads."

Mr. Dodge of Bishop & Co. stated that he did not believe that at any expense a water supply could be developed.

L. G. Kellogg said:

"I visited the island last year and I reported that if the whole island was acquired I could get some money to put into the land. If the entire island could not be obtained I would not give ten cents for the rest of it."

Mr. Markham stated that he believed that action on the matter should be delayed.

RAYMOND C. BROWN FOR INSPECTOR-IN-CHARGE

Raymond C. Brown will probably be made inspector-in-charge at the U. S. immigration station. This is the statement made by U. S. Immigration Commissioner Sargent, who arrived yesterday on the Korea. Mr. Brown is now temporarily in charge of the station, which he has conducted so satisfactorily that Commissioner Sargent believes he is the man for the place and expresses his intention of using his influence to have Brown made permanent inspector-in-charge.

FOSTER BEAT THEM TO IT

A discontinuance has been filed by Thompson & Clemons in the suit of Paul Muhlendorf et al, trustees of the estate of Samuel C. Allen, against Wm. E. Foster, plaintiff, and Chas. M. Cooke, Ltd., the Bank of Hawaii, Ltd., and Smith & Lewis, garnishees. The discontinuance was because the suit was too late to get hold of the money obtained by Foster for the sale of his building on Fort street. Foster left for the Coast with the money the day before the suit was filed.

NEW STYLE BULLET

Washington, Oct. 21.—The Army will shortly adopt the new bullet which was recently tested by several of the target experts at the national rifle meet at Sea Girt, and found to be satisfactory by them. Instead of the rounded point of the bullet it has a long, straight, tapering point and is also about one-third lighter, weighing about 150 grains. The new bullet has a greater velocity up to 2000 yards, a greater energy up to 1400 yards, a flatter trajectory up to 2000 yards and a little better accuracy up to 2000 yards.

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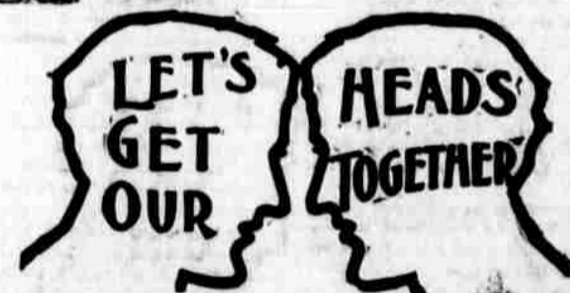
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